



City of Richmond

Where History Meets Opportunity

Richmond Historical Commission Meeting Minutes

600 Morton Street

City Commission Room

Richmond, Texas 77469

Tuesday, June 20, 2017, at 8:00 A.M.

RICHMOND HISTORICAL COMMISSION MINUTES

The Richmond Historical Commission for the City of Richmond, Texas, met in a regular meeting on Tuesday, June 20, 2017 at 8:00 a.m. Cindy Drabek, Chairperson, called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m. A quorum was present, with the following members in attendance:

Karen Bleil
Ann Council
Cindy Drabek
Becky Haas
Lonnie Meadows
Claire Rogers
Jess Stuart

Staff in attendance: Lori Bownds, Building Official; Jessica Duet, Planning Director/Historic Preservation Officer; Gary Smith, City Attorney; and Jose Abraham, Planner II.

Chairperson Cindy Drabek declared the meeting open.

Chairperson Drabek introduced agenda item number A2., public comment. She asked if there were any public comments. Mr. Robert Haas spoke during the public hearing. He spoke about the recent downtown renovations occurring at 300 Morton Street. He had concerns about the working environment and was worried about the end product for the building. Mr. Haas did state that he had confidence that staff would do the right job. Mr. Haas also expressed concerns for the City's sign regulations and wanted more clarification on nonconforming signs.

Chairperson Drabek introduced agenda item B1., review and approve minutes from May 16, 2017. The minutes from the May 16, 2017, were not available to the Commission so the item was tabled to the July 18, 2017, meeting.

Chairperson Drabek introduced agenda item B2., announce the next Richmond Historical Commission meeting on July 18, 2017, at 8:00 a.m.

Chairperson Drabek introduced agenda item C1a., Downtown Richmond Updates. Commissioner Haas reported on the following updates:

1. Robin Rosen's new building on South 3rd Street is looking great.
2. Mr. Rodriguez's antique building on Morton Street is in bad disrepair and leaning.
3. The "old hotel" building on Morton Street is a mess with the renovation work.
4. The Downtown Merchants Association is still in talks.
5. The interior of Jesse Matta's building has been renovated.

Chairperson Drabek introduced agenda item C1b., Community and Museum Events. Commissioner Rogers reported on the following events:

1. Fort Bend Museum currently has an exhibit showcasing talented local artist. The focus is on historical buildings in painting and photography.
2. Mamie George Community Center is hosting a Pancake Festival Saturday, June 24th from 7:00am to 7:00pm. It is all you can eat pancakes for \$5.00.
3. The State of the City of Richmond is June 28th at 11:30am at Briscoe Manor.
4. Fort Bend Museum starts summer history Fridays on July 7th every Friday from 9:30am to noon from July 7th to August 18th.
5. Central Fort Bend Chamber is hosting their monthly Breakfast in the Bend on July 11th at 8:00am at Clayton Oaks Living Center.
6. Historic Richmond Association is providing Music in the Park at Wessendorff Park on June 14th with music by Savannah Adkins as the featured artist.

Chairperson Drabek introduced agenda item C2a., Certificate of Appropriateness for sign application located at 302 Jackson Street. The Historic Preservation Officer recommended approval of this Certificate of Appropriateness. Commissioner Bliel motioned to recommend approval with the Historic Preservation Officer's recommendation with a request to tone down the yellow background in the sign. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Meadows. The vote was unanimous for approval.

Chairperson Drabek introduced agenda item C2b., proposed replacement of Historic District street signs. Ms. Duet spoke to the Commission and gave them two illustrations of street signs proposed. Suggestions for the new Historic Street signs were given to add decorative elements as that on the exiting street signs, the street names in all capital letters, add block numbers to the sign, square out the top of the sign instead of it being

rounded, and say "historical district" instead of "historic district". The consensus was about half the Commission liked the "top" option and half of the Commission liked the "bottom" option. Ms. Duet stated she would report their suggestions to City Administration and Public Works staff.

Chairperson Drabek introduced agenda item C2c., announcement of Blockhouse Coffee and Kitchen food trucks. Ms. Duet stated that food trucks would now be visiting the Blockhouse Coffee and Kitchen on the lot located behind their building. The owners indicated an interest from the public and have decided to have food trucks at this location a few times a week. The food trucks will change so the public can keep up with the schedule on the Blockhouse Coffee and Kitchen's Facebook page.

Chairperson Drabek introduced agenda item C2d., Historic District Demolition by Neglect amendment to UDC public hearing at July 3, 2017, Planning and Zoning Commission meeting. Ms. Duet told the Commission that staff had completed the necessary proposed amendment to the UDC to include demolition by neglect and was ready to bring the amendment for review to the Planning and Zoning Commission. She stated a public hearing would be held on July 3, 2017, at the Planning and Zoning Commission meeting and anyone is welcome to join. She stated updates will be given to Commission as the text amendment makes its way through the process.

Chairperson Drabek introduced agenda item C2e., Wessendorff Park fountain construction update. Ms. Duet stated that construction on the fountain in Wessendorff Park will begin this week. This is the final stage in the trails project. The trails themselves are near completion.

There being no further business to be brought before the Richmond Historical Commission, Chairwoman Drabek adjourned the meeting at 9:12 a.m.

Approved:



Cindy Drabek, Richmond Historical Commission Chair